



SWARC NEWS

Notes from KK4BK

I have never been classified as a “Smart Man”, but this month – I have a bunch of little tid-bits that are meant to inform, complement, and provide levity.

Inform

Make sure to check out the news section below. There are two important links to ARRL News stories that affect your ham license.

Complement

Many of you are part of the nightly net. During 2020, 455 distinct recorded callsigns signed into the nets. Some of you checked into the nets more frequently.

The first group checked in at least 80 times: WA4TCJ, KN4JJU, KD4MC

The next group checked in between 80 and 150 times: N4BAJ, KN4OEY, KK4BK, KM4ARS

The final group checked in between 185 and 225 times: WA3JJG, KJ4CVK, K7RLH

And, the Big Wig, the Head Cheese, the Lead Net Checkin Getter – KK4QDZ. Bill, it takes a lot of dedication to attend this many nets. Thank You. I look forward to you checking into each net I call.

Levity

Several of you heard WA3JJG tell a story about flying here and there, with Santa Claus on Christmas Eve. He swore he had photo proof. And don't you know – the very next morning, this was in my Inbox.



First – I am glad he had the nerve to share the photo, but – for a little elf, his arms are really long...
Guess he got into Santa's milk and cookies.

I hope 2021 lends itself better than 2020 for all of us.

SWARC de KK4BK

Notes from K7RLH

Thanks to all who sent me pictures and participated in our monthly Zoom meeting for January. I thought it was highly informative and historical, ala KI4LO and WA4TCJ's black and white images of their first shack (in the laundry room, no less).

Since the February meeting is normally our 'auction' night, what if we provided photos of equipment for sale and did another PowerPoint slide show where items could be bid for. Of course, payment arrangements would be the responsibility of purchaser/seller to work out in this COVID period.

I think we are in the Zoom meeting mode at least through March so I would appreciate any thoughts for a meeting topic. I think the April meeting is traditionally the Skywarn refresher and we could do that also on Zoom should it still be necessary.

73,
Richard – K7RLH

Meeting Notes

SWARC 4 January Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order on-the-web at 7:01 pm by President Brian Knox, KK4BK. We were once again social distancing via Zoom from the comfort of our homes.

Eighteen (18) attendees were present during the meeting including:

Richard Hall (K7RLH), Brian Knox (KK4BK), Mike Callam (KD4MC), Bill Blomgren (KK4QDZ), Andy McDaniel (KN4JJU), Al Crawford (WA4TCJ), Linda Crawford (KI4LO), Steve Mowels (KA0GMY), Mike Ramsey (KD4OKR), Ken Castille (KN4GUS), Ron Cooney from Texas (K4AAA), Manny Garcia (KB4NC), Bernie Jones (N4BAJ), Dave Yow (K4MSE), Dave Krum (NW3U), Kenny Southern (KJ4CVK), Charley Bratton (KE4QBW), and Donald Nicholson (KN4OEY) .

Bernie led the Pledge of Allegiance with the group. We did quite good this time in terms of our over-the-internet pledge synchronicity. I believe folks have learned to speak more slowly over Zoom.

Brian led a round robin asking how everyone was doing and how the holidays went. Ron and Manny seemed by far the happiest of the group. Further examination revealed that Ron was only 9 days away from retirement and Manny was 45 days away which certainly explained their upbeat attitudes. The mishap of the holidays award goes to Dave Yow whose family suffered a water line break over Christmas day and had to go without water in their house over the holiday. But Dave took it in stride, and everyone was grateful that if that's the biggest misfortune to strike then we're going pretty good.

Old Business:

The club's finances did not change from November to December. There were no additions or subtractions to the account. The account balance as of the end of December stands at \$1,659.91.

The current SWARC membership count stands at 56. We are half way through the fiscal year and dues are prorated by quarter. So, if you have not already done so now's a great time to send in your membership application at

the discounted rate of only \$15 for a regular membership.

The North Carolina QSO Party is coming up and scheduled for 10 am to 8 pm EST on February 28, 2021. Once again SWARC will be a primary sponsor of the Single-Op / In-State / Phone (Low Power) award winner.

Richard (K7RLH) has drafted a standard operating procedure for the club's wonderful new radio room. The SOP has been drafted to encourage use of the radio room by SWARC members. The SOP describes what equipment is available for the member's use and how it should be left after use. The SWARC radio room is a great opportunity to try out radios and antennas you may not have used before so come out and give the shack a whirl! Contact Richard to get the room access code.

New Business:

With COVID going gangbusters in NC, future in-person SWARC meetings are on hold for the time being and we will continue to meet remotely via Zoom. If you need the Zoom link to the monthly SWARC meetings (first Monday of each month) please contact Brian.

The JARS 147.27 repeater is back up and running. Unfortunately, the SWARC's Blackjack repeater (145.21) has some problems with its external controller. The repeater is running on an internal controller with varying power outputs. Danny Hampton (K4ITL) has a new one ready to be installed but is waiting until access to the antenna is available.

2020 Net Check-in Champions:

1. KK4QDZ – Bill with 226 recorded check-ins. Congratulations Bill!!!
2. WA3JJG – All with 200
3. KJ4CVK – Kenny with 190
4. K7RLH – Richard with 185
5. N4BAJ – Bernie with 148

Congratulations gentleman and thanks to everyone who has checked into the SWARC nightly or the Geezer & Geezerette noon nets in 2020. Nightly check-ins were up over 2019 counts so let's keep up the great fellowship in 2021!

Main Presentation:

Prior to the meeting Richard sent a call out for members to send him pictures of their shacks. You responded and Richard received a bunch of fun images which he assembled into a PowerPoint presentation with the owner's call sign on the slide. The main portion of the meeting was a round robin where each member discussed his/her shack set up when their slide came up on the Zoom presentation. This was by no means a beauty contest as to who had the best-looking equipment, but if it were, Linda Crawford (KI4LO) would have surely won the grand prize with the classic black and white photo taken of her operating a straight key in her first shack set up in a laundry room. Al (Linda's husband), you are one lucky man! Dave Krum's shack must be acknowledged with his 4, yes 4, computer monitors and beautifully framed special event station awards hanging on the wall. Dave "*my water pipes are bursting*" Yow also deserves acknowledgement for having the most furniture packed into a shack – almost up to the ceiling! You have got to attend the monthly meetings to hear the back story...

This presentation format was very popular as evidenced by how long the meeting ran. Thanks to Richard for the great meeting idea!

Brian concluded the meeting at 8:28 pm.

Happy New Year and 73!!!

Andy McDaniel – KN4JJU - Secretary

South Wake Amateur Radio Club

Treasurer Report December 2020

Club Addition and Reduction Activity

Additions – 0.00

Reductions – 0.00

Balance as of 12/07/2020 1659.91

MEMBERSHIP

Just a reminder that it is that time again to pay membership dues.

\$30 for individual and \$5 for each family member.

You can bring a check or cash to the next meeting or mail them to the club PO box and Christy will let me know she has received them so I can update the list. If you mail them, give me a heads up so I can mark it as pending on the roster.

Makes checks payable to South Wake ARC.

If you are going to mail it, send it to South Wake ARC – PO Box 1565 – Fuquay Varina, NC 27526

I will be developing an online form so new members can fill out the application online and mail or bring a check to a meeting.

I will be reaching out to all members here soon to make sure I have the latest contact information, addresses, etc so I can make sure the membership list reflects current information.

Thanks

Ryan Avery

NC4RA

rwavey@charter.net

NET REPORT

Hi to the SWARC Group

Personally – I think Bill's (KK4QDZ) dogs remind him its “Net Time”. He managed to check in to all 31 days of December nets. I hate to say this – but he only beat me (KJ4CVK) by 2 check in's. Great Job Bill! See you on the nets.

By Call Sign		By Call Sign		By Call Sign		By Date	
Call Sign	# of Net Checkins	Call Sign	# of Net Checkins	Call Sign	# of Net Checkins	Date	Net Counts
KK4QDZ	31	KO4GOG	8	KO4AZZ	3	12/1/2020	10
KJ4CVK	29	KA0GMY	8	KM4YTF	3	12/2/2020	22
K7RLH	24	N4NCK	8	KN4OO	3	12/3/2020	18
N4BAJ	23	KJ4QNW	8	W1JCA	3	12/4/2020	20
WA3JJG	21	AJ4NX	7	KE4QBW	3	12/5/2020	29
KM4IJK	20	AD5ZB	7	K3CON	3	12/6/2020	16
KN4OEY	14	KO4FUD	7	K4MSE	3	12/7/2020	25
KJ4WLG	14	KI4WAI	6	N4SBB	3	12/8/2020	11
KG4JOK	13	KN4JJU	6	N4RAD	3	12/10/2020	24
KK4BK	13	KE4RUN	6	KD4MC	3	12/11/2020	22
KM4ARS	12	NC4MP	6	KN4VTT	2	12/12/2020	17
KI4YII	11	N4MRW	5	N4AED	2	12/13/2020	10
KO4DHJ	11	WA4TCJ	5	KB4NC	2	12/14/2020	13
KE5OLM	10	KN4HDH	4	N1VK	2	12/15/2020	29
KT4JR	10	KN4IJK	4	KN4RJJ	2	12/16/2020	18
KK4BVU	9	KD4OKR	4	AK4XZ	2	12/17/2020	14
KI4RAN	9	KO4IHM	4	N2UHI	2	12/18/2020	21
WB4UFO	9			NC4BJ	2	12/19/2020	16
				KE4OLM	2	12/20/2020	16
				KI4LO	2	12/21/2020	12
				N4RMV	2	12/22/2020	18
				KM4TC	2	12/23/2020	35
						12/25/2020	25
						12/26/2020	12
						12/27/2020	14
						12/28/2020	13
						12/29/2020	12
						12/30/2020	16
						12/31/2020	18

Public Service

Check the RARS web site often for Public Service opportunities.

<u>BOARD OF DIRECTORS</u>	<u>Appointed Positions</u>
<u>President</u> Brian Knox – KK4BK	<u>NET MANAGER</u> Steve – KA0GMY
<u>Vice President</u> Richard Hall – K7RLH	<u>Special Events Director</u> Gino Fernandini – KI4YXO
<u>Secretary</u> Andy McDaniel – KN4JJU	<u>Public Service Director</u> David Krum – NW3U
<u>Treasurer</u> Christy Fernandini - KJ4AEO	
<u>Member-At-Large</u> Al Crawford – WA4TCJ <u>Member-At-</u>	
<u>Large</u> Bernie Jones – N4BAJ <u>Member-At-</u>	
<u>Large</u> Mike Gaither – K4MWG <u>Membership</u>	
<u>Chair</u> Ryan Avery – NC4RA	

SWARC Mission Statement

South Wake ARC's primary purpose is to further the Amateur Radio Service through programs, activities, and education, in order to promote the radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency of our members. Further, it shall be our purpose to support the welfare of our community through public service including radio communications for emergency situations and public events, and through providing information, training, and assistance to individuals or organizations with an interest in the Amateur Radio Service.

LINKS (if you have other links you want added then send them to me)

PRN

A Wide Area Digital Amateur Radio Network www.ncprn.net

GigaParts

www.gigaparts.com

QRZ

www.qrz.com

Ham Radio Outlet HRO

www.hamradio.com

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society RARS

www.rars.org

Johnson Amateur Radio Society JARS

www.jars..net

South Wake Amateur Radio Club SWARC

www.southwakearc.com

There are events going on all the time: you got Islands on the Air (IOTA), and then there is working Light Houses, don't forget all the special events there is something new each week. Here is one for you Mark, N4MQU is always setting up and working from different locations or likes to run different nets as the net control. See how many times you can work Mark in his different rolls during the week. If nothing else take your radio to the backyard and work some stations.
Just have fun.

ATTENTION

Our club is like other clubs we have a mixture of memberships. We have everything from young pre-teen members to those who are “Advanced Teens”. The point is - make sure to checking in on our older members to see if they could use any help.

Question of the month WHO HAVE YOU HELPED THIS MONTH?

ARRL News

FCC to Require Email Address on Applications Starting on June 29, 2021

12/31/2020

Effective on June 29, 2021, amateur radio licensees and candidates must provide the FCC with an email address on all applications. If no email address is included, the FCC may dismiss the application as “defective.” On September 16, the FCC adopted a *Report and Order (R&O)* in WT Docket 19-212 on “Completing the Transition to Electronic Filing, Licenses and Authorizations, and Correspondence in the Wireless Radio Services.”

The *R&O* was **published** on December 29 in the *Federal Register*. The FCC has already begun strongly encouraging applicants to provide an email address. Once an email address is provided, the FCC will email a link to an official electronic copy of the license grant. An official copy will also be available at any time by accessing the licensee’s password-protected Universal Licensing System (ULS) account.

Licensees can log into the ULS **License Manager System** with their FRN and password at any time and update anything in their FCC license record, including adding an email address. For questions or password issues, call the CORES/FRN Help Line, (877) 480-3201 (Monday – Friday, 1300 – 2300 UTC) or **reset the password** on the FCC website. <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-to-require-email-address-on-applications-starting-on-june-29-2021>

FCC Reduces Proposed Amateur Radio Application Fee to \$35

12/30/2020

The FCC has agreed with ARRL and other commenters that its proposed \$50 fee for certain amateur radio applications was “too high to account for the minimal staff involvement in these applications.” In a *Report and Order (R&O)*, released on December 29, the FCC scaled back to \$35 the fee for a new license application, a special temporary authority (STA) request, a rule waiver request, a license renewal application, and a vanity call sign application. All fees are per application. There will be no fee for administrative updates, such as a change of mailing or email address.

This fall, ARRL filed comments in firm opposition to the FCC proposal to impose a \$50 fee on amateur radio license and application fees and **urged its members** to follow suit.

As the FCC noted in its *R&O*, although some commenters supported the proposed \$50 fee as reasonable and fair, “ARRL and many individual commenters argued that there was no cost-based justification for application fees in the Amateur Radio Service.” The fee proposal was contained in a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* in MD Docket 20-270, which was adopted to implement portions of the “Repack Airwaves Yielding Better Access for Users of Modern Services Act” of 2018 — the so-called “**Ray Baum’s Act**.” <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-reduces-proposed-amateur-radio-application-fee-to-35>

Upcoming Contest

(<https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>)

January 2021

+ AGB New Year Snowball Contest	0000Z-0100Z, Jan 1
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jan 1
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 1
+ NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 1
+ SARTG New Year RTTY Contest	0800Z-1100Z, Jan 1
+ AGCW Happy New Year Contest	0900Z-1200Z, Jan 1
+ AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1700Z, Jan 1 (144) and 1700Z-1800Z, Jan 1 (432)
+ QRP ARCI New Years Sprint	1500Z-1800Z, Jan 1
+ PODXS 070 Club PSKFest	0000Z-2400Z, Jan 2
+ WW PMC Contest	1200Z, Jan 2 to 1200Z, Jan 3
+ RSGB AFS Contest, CW	1300Z-1700Z, Jan 2
+ Original QRP Contest	1500Z, Jan 2 to 1500Z, Jan 3
+ Winter VHF Sprint	1600Z-1659Z, Jan 2
+ ARRL Kids Day	1800Z-2359Z, Jan 2
+ ARRL RTTY Roundup	1800Z, Jan 2 to 2400Z, Jan 3
+ EUCW 160m Contest	2000Z-2300Z, Jan 2 and 0400Z-0700Z, Jan 3
+ K1USN Slow Speed Test	0000Z-0100Z, Jan 4
+ RSGB Hope QSO Party	0930Z-1100Z, Jan 4 (RTTY)
+ OK1WC Memorial	1630Z-1729Z, Jan 4
+ Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	0100Z-0159Z, Jan 5
+ ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Jan 5
+ RSGB Hope QSO Party	1100Z-1230Z, Jan 5 (SSB)
+ RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Jan 5
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 6
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 6
+ RSGB Hope QSO Party	1230Z-1400Z, Jan 6 (FT4)
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jan 6
+ VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	1700Z-2000Z, Jan 6
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1900Z-2000Z, Jan 6
+ UKEICC 80m Contest	2000Z-2100Z, Jan 6
+ AWA Linc Cundall Memorial CW Contest	2300Z, Jan 6 to 2300Z, Jan 7 and 2300Z, Jan 9 to 2300Z, Jan 10
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	0300Z-0400Z, Jan 7
+ RSGB Hope QSO Party	1400Z-1530Z, Jan 7 (CW)
+ RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Jan 7
+ NRAU 10m Activity Contest	1800Z-1900Z, Jan 7 (CW) and 1900Z-2000Z, Jan 7 (SSB) and 2000Z-2100Z, Jan 7 (FM) and 2100Z-2200Z, Jan 7 (Dig)
+ SKCC Sprint Europe	2000Z-2200Z, Jan 7
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jan 8
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 8

+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 8
+ YB DX Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Jan 9
+ Old New Year Contest	0500Z-0900Z, Jan 9
+ SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Jan 9 to 2400Z, Jan 10
+ UBA PSK63 Prefix Contest	1200Z, Jan 9 to 1200Z, Jan 10
+ North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Jan 9 to 0559Z, Jan 10
+ NRAU-Baltic Contest, SSB	0630Z-0830Z, Jan 10
+ NRAU-Baltic Contest, CW	0900Z-1100Z, Jan 10
+ DARC 10-Meter Contest	0900Z-1059Z, Jan 10
+ Midwinter Contest	1000Z-1400Z, Jan 10
+ RSGB AFS Contest, Data	1300Z-1700Z, Jan 10
+ K1USN Slow Speed Test	0000Z-0100Z, Jan 11
+ 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Jan 11
+ RSGB Hope QSO Party	0930Z-1100Z, Jan 11 (FT4)
+ OK1WC Memorial	1630Z-1729Z, Jan 11
+ Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	0100Z-0159Z, Jan 12
+ RSGB Hope QSO Party	1100Z-1230Z, Jan 12 (CW)
+ RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Jan 12
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 13
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 13
+ RSGB Hope QSO Party	1230Z-1400Z, Jan 13 (RTTY)
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jan 13
+ VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest	1700Z-2000Z, Jan 13
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1900Z-2000Z, Jan 13
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	0300Z-0400Z, Jan 14
+ RSGB Hope QSO Party	1400Z-1530Z, Jan 14 (SSB)
+ RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Jan 14
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jan 15
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 15
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 15
+ Hungarian DX Contest	1200Z, Jan 16 to 1159Z, Jan 17
+ PRO Digi Contest	1200Z, Jan 16 to 1159Z, Jan 17
+ RSGB AFS Contest, SSB	1300Z-1700Z, Jan 16
+ NA Collegiate Championship, SSB	1800Z, Jan 16 to 0559Z, Jan 17
+ North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Jan 16 to 0559Z, Jan 17
+ WAB 1.8 MHz Phone/CW	1900Z-2300Z, Jan 16
+ ARRL January VHF Contest	1900Z, Jan 16 to 0359Z, Jan 18
+ Feld Hell Sprint	2000Z, Jan 16 to 0559Z, Jan 17
+ Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	2300Z, Jan 17 to 0100Z, Jan 18
+ K1USN Slow Speed Test	0000Z-0100Z, Jan 18
+ OK1WC Memorial	1630Z-1729Z, Jan 18
+ Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	0100Z-0159Z, Jan 19
+ RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Jan 19
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 20
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 20
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jan 20
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1900Z-2000Z, Jan 20
+ NAQCC CW Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Jan 21
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	0300Z-0400Z, Jan 21
+ RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Jan 21

+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jan 22
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 22
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 22
+ BARTG RTTY Sprint	1200Z, Jan 23 to 1200Z, Jan 24
+ UK/EI DX Contest, CW	1200Z, Jan 23 to 1200Z, Jan 24
+ K1USN Slow Speed Test	0000Z-0100Z, Jan 25
+ QCX Challenge	1300Z-1400Z, Jan 25
+ OK1WC Memorial	1630Z-1729Z, Jan 25
+ QCX Challenge	1900Z-2000Z, Jan 25
+ Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	0100Z-0159Z, Jan 26
+ QCX Challenge	0300Z-0400Z, Jan 26
+ RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Jan 26
+ SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jan 27
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 27
+ Phone Fray	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 27
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jan 27
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	1900Z-2000Z, Jan 27
+ UKEICC 80m Contest	2000Z-2100Z, Jan 27
+ NAQCC CW Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Jan 28
+ CWops Mini-CWT Test	0300Z-0400Z, Jan 28
+ RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Jan 28
+ NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jan 29
+ QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 29
+ NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 29
+ CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	2200Z, Jan 29 to 2200Z, Jan 31
+ Feld Hell Sprint	0000Z-2359Z, Jan 30
+ REF Contest, CW	0600Z, Jan 30 to 1800Z, Jan 31
+ UBA DX Contest, SSB	1300Z, Jan 30 to 1300Z, Jan 31
+ Winter Field Day	1900Z, Jan 30 to 1900Z, Jan 31



